

Scandinavia, Switzerland, England, Scotland, and Wales, but it took rather the first form in the lower classes and in the process of time. In building houses in Holland the windows were built conveniently for this custom. " In 1666-1667 every house on the Island of Texel had an opening under the window where the lover could enter so as to sit on the bed and spend the night making love to the daughter of the house." The custom was called *queesten*. Parents encouraged it. A girl who had no *queester* was not esteemed. Rarely did any harm occur. If so, the man was mobbed and wounded or killed. The custom can be traced in North Holland down to the eighteenth century.¹ This was the customary mode of wooing in the low countries and Scandinavia. In spite of the disapproval of both civil and ecclesiastical authorities, the custom continued just as round dances continue now, in spite of the disapproval of many parents, because a girl who should refuse to conform to current usage would be left out of the social movement. The lover was always one who would be accepted as a husband. If he exceeded the limits set by custom he was very hardly dealt with by the people of the village.² The custom is reported from the Schwarzwald as late as 1780. It was there the regular method of wooing for classes who had to work all day. The lover was required to enter by the dormer window. Even still the custom is said to exist amongst the peasants of Germany, but it is restricted to one night in the month or in the year.³ Krasinski⁴ describes kissing games customary amongst the Unitarians of the Ukrain. He says that they are a Greek custom and he connects them

with bundling.

579. Poverty and wooing. Amongst peasants there was little opportunity for the young people to become acquainted. When the cold season came they could not woo out of doors. The young women could not be protected by careful rules which would prevent wooing. They had to take risks and to take care

¹ Wilken in *Bijdragen tot T. L. en V.-Kunde*, XXXV, 205.

² Scheltema, *Frijen en Trouwen*, 59 ; Schotel, *Het Oud-Holland. Huisgezin* ^ 228 ; *Globus*, LXXXII, 324.

³ Rudeck, *Gesch. der Sittlichkeit*, 146, 404.

⁴ *Cossacks of the Ukrain*, 281.